

Places. The applicable criterion is Criterion D--the site has yielded, and is likely to yield, further information important in history. Thus, avoidance is the recommended mitigation alternative. Should avoidance prove impossible due to the direct and indirect impacts of proposed construction, then data recovery would be the suggested alternative.

Recommended data recovery operations would concentrate on the excavation of Area I, the area of highest artifact density and the primary locus of domestic activity. Data recovery operations would concentrate on the identification of further intact land surfaces, additional subsurface features, and intact artifact deposits, including the complete excavation of Feature 2. The level of effort of excavation of any portion, or all of, Area II would be less than Area I.

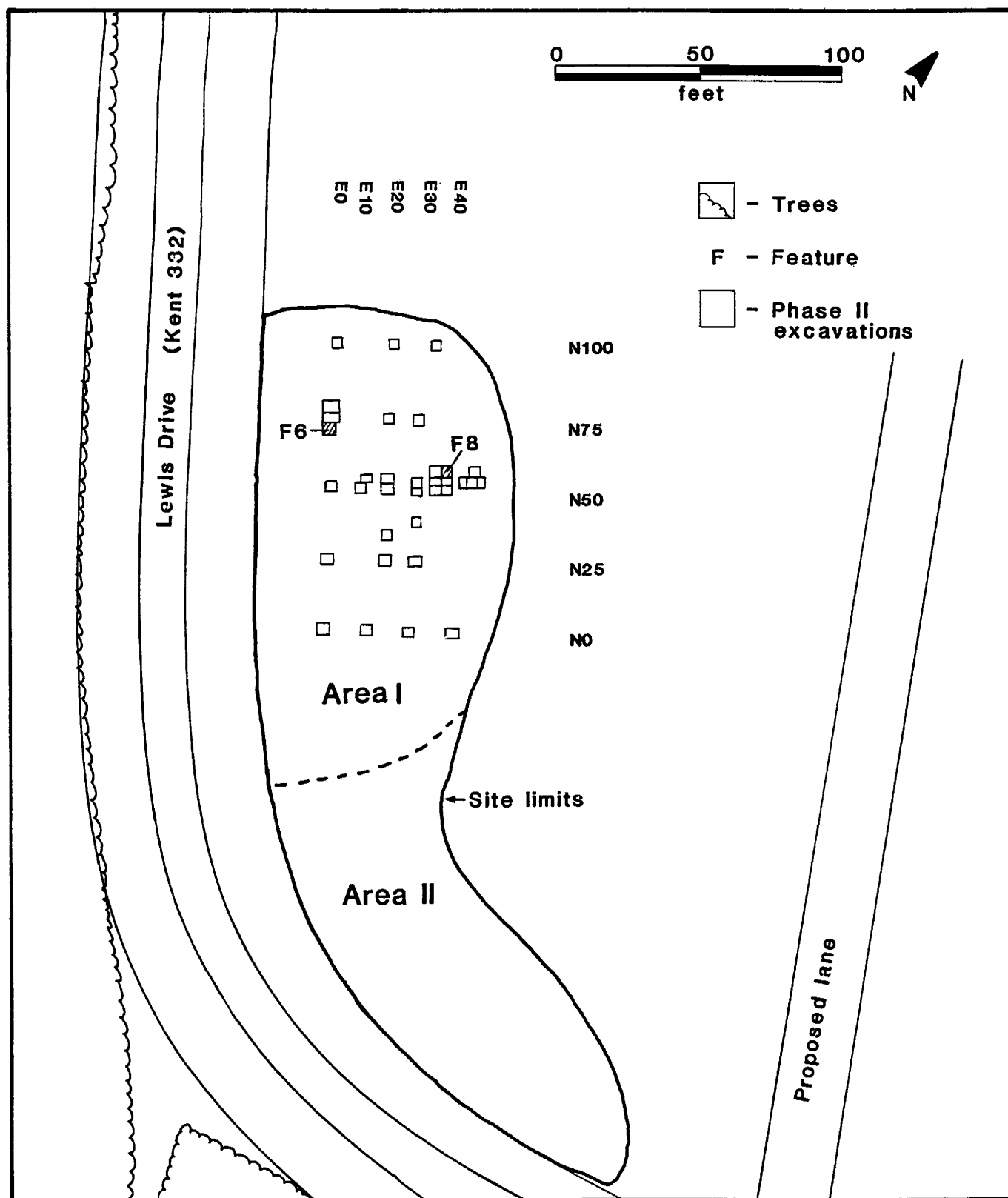
#### **H. WILSON-LEWIS TENANT FARM SITE**

The H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site (K-6414, 7K-C-375) is located in a plowed field northeast of Dover along the north side of Lewis Drive (Kent 332) (Figure 56). The site is approximately 800' north of the Lewis-E Site (K-6385, 7K-C-362). The entire site is located within the proposed right-of-way. The H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site was first located on Byles' 1859 Atlas where the site appears as a structure associated with "H. Wilson" just north of the boundary of Little Creek and Dover hundreds (Figure 62). On Beers' 1868 Atlas, the structure appears with the same name. Further archival research identified the site as an early to late nineteenth century tenant and owner occupied farm complex.



FIGURE 63

H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site,  
Location of Site Limits,  
All Phase II Excavations, and Features 6 and 8



## Site History

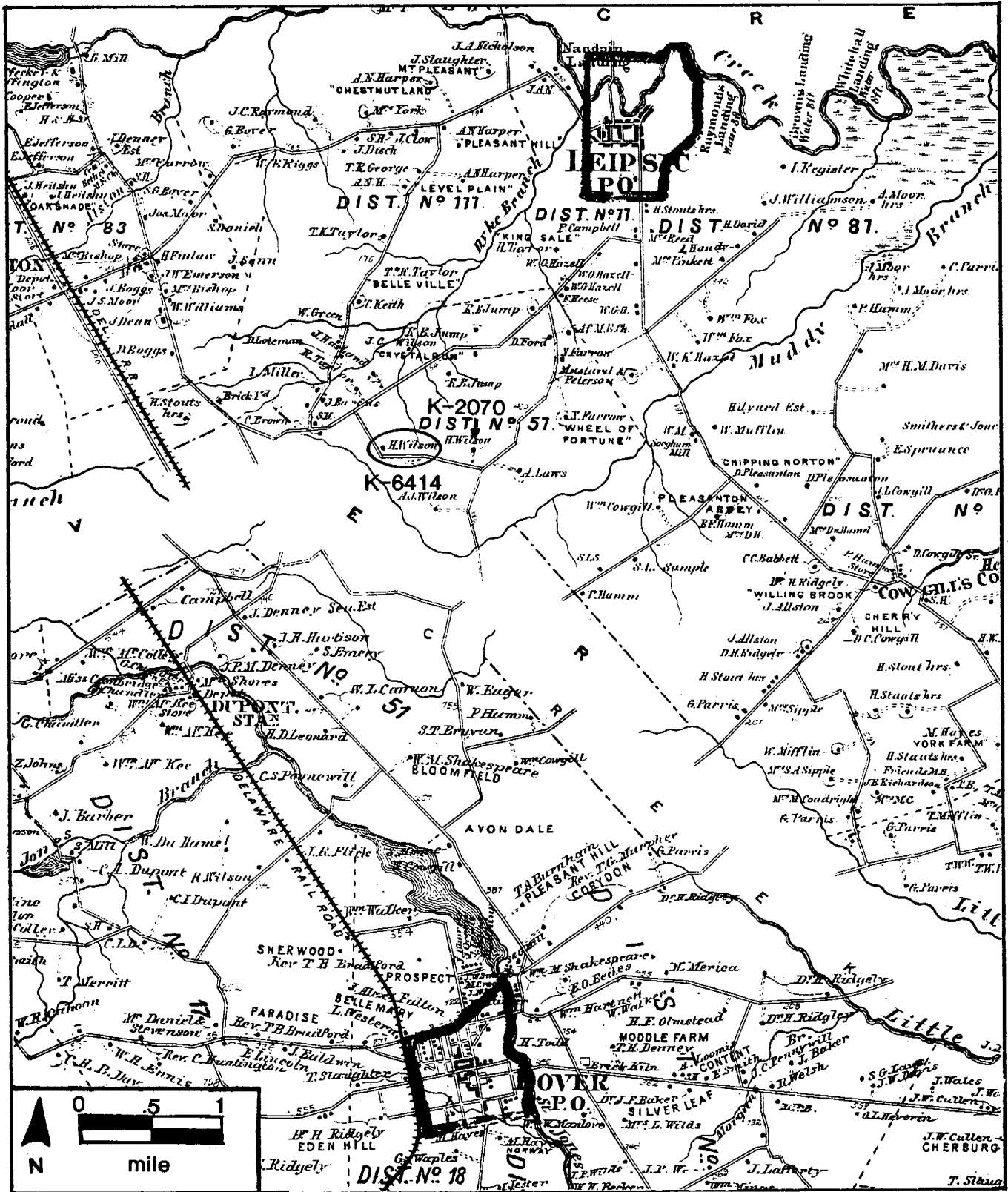
The H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site is located on a 180 acre parcel on the northeast side of Lewis Drive (Kent 332). Archival research indicates that a house was initially built on Site 7K-C-375 between 1852 and 1859. The property was part of a larger 208 acre parcel first set off from the original 337 acre tract in 1788. Site 7K-C-375 consists of the remains of a predominantly tenant-occupied structure associated with K-2070, an extant mid-nineteenth century predominantly owner-occupied house approximately 3000 feet to the east. Site K-2070 appears on both Byles' and Beers' atlases as a structure associated with "H. Wilson" (Figures 62 and 64).

The H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site was occupied from 1859, when a structure appears on Byles' Atlas, until sometime before 1889 as the structure does not appear in an Orphan's court evaluation of the property. The structure also does not appear on the 1906 USGS topographic map of the Dover area. This mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation of the H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site indicated by archival research is consistent with the artifact assemblage recovered by archaeological testing. No eighteenth century occupation was located at the site by archaeological testing or archival research.

The H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site is located on the same 180 parcel as the Lewis-E Historic Site. The early history of the parcel is summarized in the site history of the Lewis-E Site and the chain of title for the parcel containing the two sites is given in Table 8.

FIGURE 64

# H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site, Detail of Beers' Atlas (1868)



Henry L. Wilson inherited the 180 acre H. Wilson-Lewis Site parcel in 1852 upon his father Gustave Wilson's death. Gustave Wilson was ca. 72 years old when he died. According to the 1850 population census, 13 year old Henry Wilson shared his home, K-2070, with his parents Gustave (age 70 years) and Ann (age 57 years), his brothers Andrew I. (age 21 years) and Robert K. (age 19 years), and his sister Catharine (age 17 years). A 17 year old black servant named Victorine Moor also lived with the Wilsons.

In 1852 the Kent County Orphan's Court assigned the lands of Gustave Wilson to his minor son Henry L. Wilson. The Orphan's Court described the property as a farm of about 110 acres of land and the farmhouse now labeled K-2070 as:

"a one story frame house and kitchen adjoining both in tolerable repair yard fence--wants about \$10 spent on house and yard fence; also a corn crib and smoakhouse in good order. No stable, one badly needed would cost about \$50 to build one large enough for the use of the farm. No other repairs necessary on the other buildings, a young orchard of about 30 trees..."  
(Kent County Orphan's Court S-156)

Only one structure is described in 1852 which indicates that the H. Wilson tenant house was built between 1852 and 1859 when the structure appears on Byles' Atlas. In addition, the H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant structure may have been built by Andrew I. Wilson, Gustave's son who was a house carpenter according to the 1850 population census. Andrew Wilson then settled on land south of the H. Wilson Site where he appears on Beers' 1868 Atlas (Figure 64).

Henry L. Wilson owned the 180 acre tenant farm until his death in 1889 and is the "H. Wilson" who appears on Byles' and

Beers' atlases (Figures 62 and 64). In 1860 Wilson was assessed for 180 acres in the tenure of William Ennis. The property was improved with a one story dwelling (K-2070), cribs, and stable all of which were in "tolerable repair." At his death in 1889, the Kent County Orphan's Court ordered the sale of Wilson's land at public auction. According to the Orphan's Court, improvements to the property consisted of a one story frame dwelling, barn, stable, and other outbuildings which describes K-2070. No other structure is described by the Orphan's Court which indicates that the tenant house on the property was gone by 1889.

John Denny purchased the property at public sale in 1890. The subsequent deed transactions are summarized in Table 8. The H. Wilson Tenant structure does not appear on either the 1906 USGS topographic map or Bausman's 1939 land classification map of Kent County which is consistent with the occupation of the site indicated by archival evidence and archaeological testing.

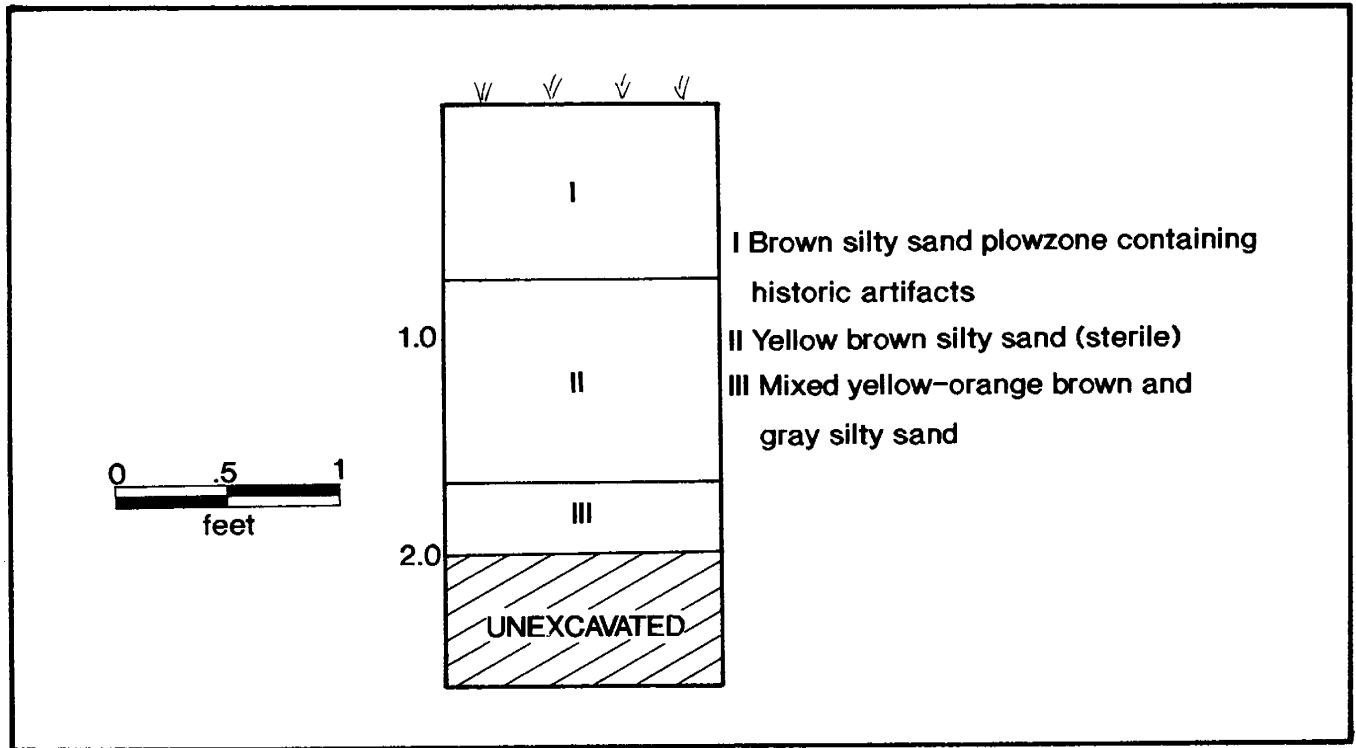
In conclusion, the H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site consists of the remains of a mid-nineteenth century tenant structure associated with K-2070. The site was predominantly tenant-occupied although a short owner occupation is indicated. Archival research indicates that a structure existed from ca. 1859 until ca. 1889 and that the site was occupied from the mid-to-late nineteenth century. These dates of occupation are consistent with the results of the Phase I and II excavations which are presented next.

### **Phase I Survey Results Summary**

Phase I testing consisted a total of 45 shovel test pits in the Edwin Lewis beanfield. The results of the Phase I survey are

FIGURE 65

H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site,  
Profile of Shovel Test Pit NOW20



described in more detail in Bachman et al. (1988) where the site was identified as the Lewis-D Site. Shovel Test Pits 16-9 through 16-22 recovered numerous mid-to-late nineteenth century historic artifacts in the area of the structure shown on Beers' and Byles' atlases (Figures 62 and 64). A typical shovel test pit profile showing the stratigraphy of the site is shown in Figure 65.

**Phase II Survey Results**

Phase II testing consisted of the excavation of 31 3' X 3' test units in the area of highest artifact density identified by the Phase I survey. Phase II testing identified the limits of the site which are shown along with the location of all of the



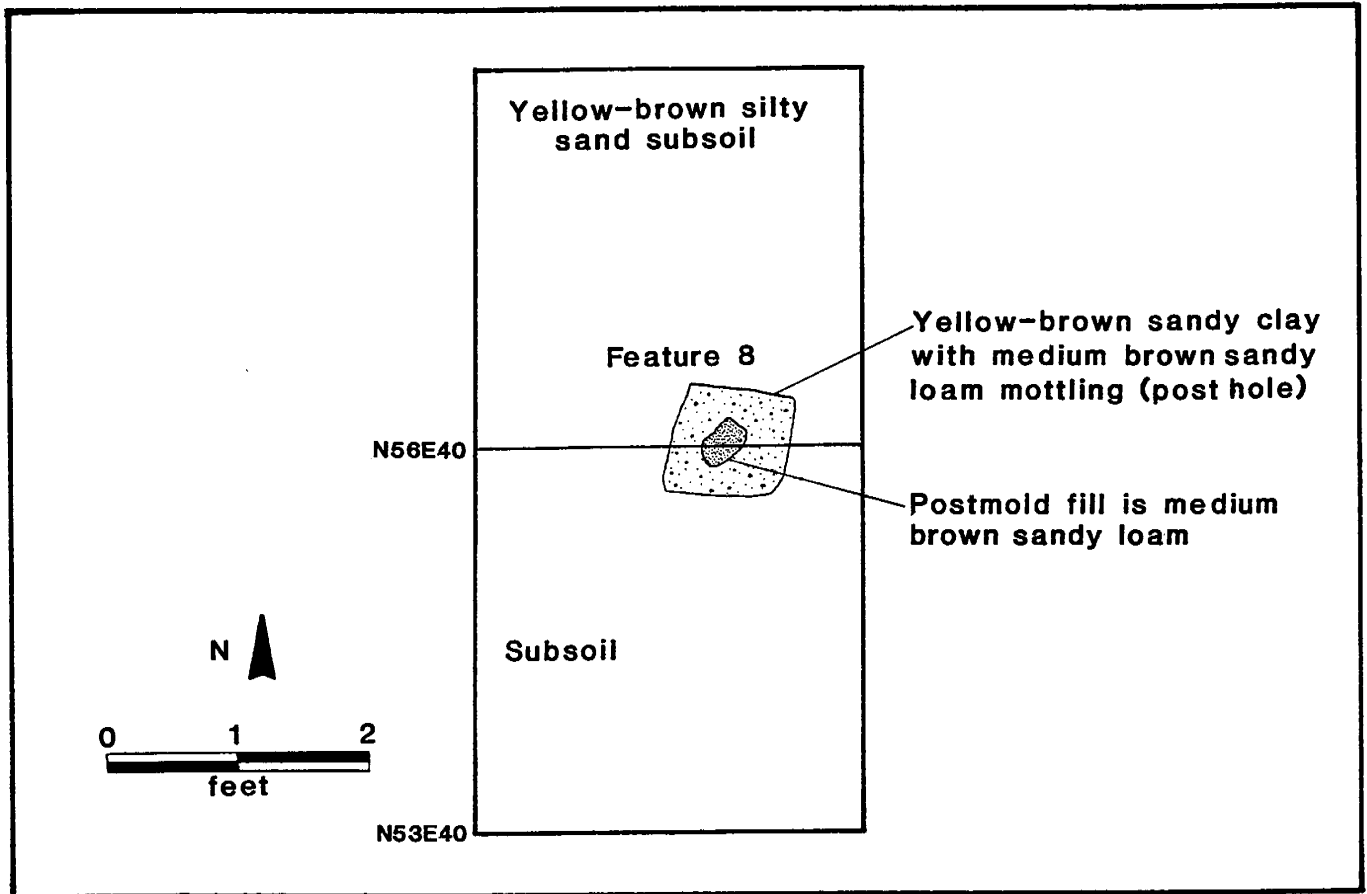
Phase I and II tests. The H. Wilson Tenant Farm Site is bounded on the south and west by Lewis Drive (Kent 332) and on the east and north by culturally sterile areas located during Phase I testing. All of the site has been plowed and all artifacts recovered from the site with the exception of a single nail fragment came from disturbed plowzone contexts. With the exception of two fence-related postmolds, no historic features were located.

Phase I and II testing located two areas of relatively high artifact densities which appear along with the limits of the site in Figure 63. Area I consists of the core of the site and is characterized by an area of medium to high artifact density recorded at the site (five to 28 artifacts per shovel test pit and 30 to 118 artifacts per 3' X 3' test unit). Area II contained a consistent artifact density of less than five artifacts per shovel test. All of the Phase I shovel test pits conducted outside of these two areas contained less than two and usually zero artifacts per shovel test pit.

Two intact subsoil historic features were identified at the H. Wilson Tenant-Farm Site. The two features, Features 6 and 8, are the remains of two historic fenceposts. Both features are located in Area I as shown in Figure 63. Features 6 and 8 contained no artifacts except for one nail fragment found in Feature 8. Feature 6 is a posthole approximately 1' square located in Test Unit N75E0. The feature extended 1.0 feet into the subsoil which is equivalent to approximately 2.0 feet below ground surface. Feature 6 had been disturbed by both plowing and rodents.

FIGURE 66

# H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site, Floor Plan of Test Units N53E40 and N56E40, Showing Feature 8



Feature 8 was first identified in Test Unit N53E40 and consisted of a clearly defined postmold and related posthole. A floor plan of Test Units N53E40 and N56E40 showing Feature 8 is shown in Figure 66. Upon excavation the remains of a split log post was found in the postmold. The dimensions of the post were 0.4 by 0.3 feet; this relatively small size suggests that the feature is not structural. One badly corroded nail fragment was the only artifact recovered.

All of the artifacts recovered during Phase I and II testing are consistent with the mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation

of the site indicated by archival research. A total of 2,250 historic artifacts and 51 prehistoric artifacts were recovered during Phase I and II testing. Ceramics comprised 27% of the total artifact assemblage of the site which is summarized in Appendix II. Whitewares, pearlwares, and redwares were the most common historic ceramics and comprised 48%, 20%, and 14% of the total ceramic assemblage respectively. Lesser amounts of yellowwares, ironstones, and American stonewares (6% each) were also found. The mean ceramic date of the site was 1850.1 without redwares and 1843.1 with redwares. Both dates are consistent with the mid-nineteenth century occupation indicated by archival research.

Other historic artifacts found at the H. Wilson Tenant Farm Site by Phase II excavations included fragments of molded clear, aqua, and amber bottle glass; molded clear jars; and household lamp glass. Structurally-related artifacts, including window glass, comprised 38% of the total number of artifacts recovered. Of these artifacts, cut nails were the most common diagnostic nail fragment and comprised 92% of all diagnostic nail fragments. Relatively little brick (38 fragments weighing 3.2 kilograms) was recovered at the site which is consistent with the documentary evidence that indicates frame construction for the structure.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

In conclusion, archaeological testing and documentary research has identified the H. Wilson Tenant Farm Site as a mid-to-late nineteenth century tenant house site. No structurally-related features were identified and no other features except for the remains of two fence posts were identified. Despite the

degree of plow disturbance noted over the entire site, the lack of more historic features and the low numbers of historic artifacts found, the site is considered to be potentially eligible on the National Register of Historic Places. The site was occupied by very poor tenants--people unlikely to have extensive material culture remains and it is likely that the primary evidence of human occupation at the site will be in structural and activity area related features. Sites of this low socio-economic status are generally poorly preserved and the H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site represents a significant opportunity to more closely study the lifeways of an important, but poorly documented group in Delaware history. Thus, avoidance is the recommended alternative. Should avoidance prove impossible due to direct and indirect impacts of proposed construction, data recovery would be the suggested alternative.

#### **LOOCKERMAN'S RANGE SITE**

The Loockerman's Range Site (7K-C-365B; K-6388B) is located on the property of Dover Downs Raceway on the east side of the town of Dover. The site is located approximately one mile east of present Route 13 and approximately 400 feet west of Leipsic Road (Kent 88) south of Muddy Branch (Figure 67). The site is located approximately 100 feet west of the proposed right-of-way of State Route 1 in an unplowed field denuded of trees in early 1987. The site is approximately 200' southwest of the 7K-C-365A site, a nearby Woodland I micro-band and procurement site.

The limits of the Loockerman's Range Site are also shown in Figure 67. The northern, western, and southern boundaries of the